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Daily Press

THE WEATHER.
Fair, colder Thursday; Friday, fair; light west winds.

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NEWPORT NEWS, VA., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1909.

PRICE TWO CENTS

SHELDON, AT DEATH'S DOOR, IS INDICTED

Former President of Phoenix Insurance Company Charged With Grand Larceny.

GRAND JURY NOW GOING AFTER OTHER OFFICIALS

Detectives Will be Sent to Greenwich to Inquire Into Condition of Accused Man, Who Has Been in Critical State Since Before His Removal From Office.

(By Associated Press.)
NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—George Preston Sheldon, deposed president of the Phoenix (Fire) Insurance Company of Brooklyn, lying at death's door at his Greenwich, Conn., home was indicted for larceny in the first degree by the grand jury in New York today for alleged misapplication of funds of the company of which he was the head for 22 years. As Sheldon was not arrested and probably will not be unless his health improves radically, the text of the indictment was not made public, but an official of the district attorney's office is authority for the statement that the amount which Sheldon is accused of stealing is \$45,000.

Used Company's Funds.
According to this official Sheldon, it was testified, before the grand jury, used the funds or credit of the insurance company in stock market transactions through a New York brokerage firm and pocketed the profits.

The grand jury will now investigate the connection of others with alleged speculation with the funds of the company. Only charges against Sheldon have not been examined as yet, although the report of the insurance department implicated others.

In the meantime detectives will be sent to Greenwich to inquire into the condition of the accused man's health. If they are satisfied that he is too ill for trial, no attempt at extradition will be made, but he will be kept under close surveillance.

OPERATORS TO VOTE ON STRIKE QUESTION

Futile Conferences Between Telegraphers and Officers of the Big Four Railroads.

(By Associated Press.)
CINCINNATI, OHIO, Dec. 8.—After several days of futile negotiations between a committee representing the Big Four telegraphers and the officers of that railroad, a referendum vote was ordered by the operators today. Whether a strike will be ordered will now depend upon the way the 1,000 telegraphers employed by the system vote.

The demands of the men are for a 20 per cent increase in pay and for the inclusion in their ranks of telephone operators interlocking tower-men, station agents and staff men. These demands have been definitely refused by General Manager Van Winkle.

TROTTER ASSOCIATION EXPELS MISS PALMER

Maryland Woman Accused of Starting Pacer Out of His Class Under False Name.

(By Associated Press.)
NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—Miss Elsie Palmer, of Pimlico, Md., was expelled from membership in the National Trotting Association, at a meeting of the association's board of review here today.

The charge against her was that she started her pacer, George Bertin, out of his class and under the name of "Aristocrat" at the State fair at Timonium, Md., last fall.

SHOOT HIS BRIDE AND THEN HIMSELF

Virginia Farmer, Accused of Larceny by Wife, Commits Murder and Suicide.

(By Associated Press.)
WINCHESTER, VA., Dec. 8.—When his wife, a bride of three months charged him with stealing her trousseau and selling it, Charles Crowell, a farmer, shot the woman dead today and then turned a shotgun on himself and sent a charge through his heart.

The shot killed his wife immediately and his death, too, was instantaneous. The girl was only fourteen years old.

BIG CROWD FOR RACES.

Good Card and Perfect Weather Bring People Out.

(By Associated Press.)
JACKSONVILLE, FLA., Dec. 8.—A good card and perfect weather was the incentive for a large gathering at Menier Park today. Mary F and Oberon, both favorite, were heavily played and won their respective races. Oberon's victory in the sixth event being one of the prettiest of the day. Ben Double, owned by a local horseman was heavily played at 5 to 2 and beat out the favorite, Masuma, for first place, thereby winning the feature, the Atlantic selling stake.

INVESTIGATE MERGER

Telephone and Western Union Presidents Subpoenaed.

GOULD DIRECTORS RETIRE

Men Representing New Controlling Interests, the American Telephone & Telegraph Company, Elected to Board.

(By Associated Press.)
NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—Theodore N. Vail, president of the American Telephone & Telegraph Company, the Bell interests, and Robert C. Clowry, president of the Western Union Telegraph Company, have been subpoenaed to appear before the legislative inquiry into the telephone and telegraph systems of this state now going on in New York. Mr. Vail will testify tomorrow and Colonel Clowry will be called later.

This will be the first investigation into the recent billion dollar merger, whereby the Bell interests obtained control of the Western Union by the purchase of Gould stock.

Gould Directors Retire.

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—A large part of the Gould interests in the Western Union Telegraph Company retired today at a meeting of the board of directors and they and others affiliated with the Goulds were succeeded by men representing the American Telephone & Telegraph Company, the Harriman and the Moore interests.

The dividend of 3 per cent per annum was not changed, a quarterly dividend of 3-4 of 1 per cent being declared.

The following directors offered their resignations and they were accepted:

Frank Jay Gould, Howard Gould, Kingsley Gould, John T. Terry, C. Sidney Shephard, G. W. Atkins, Thomas F. Clark, John B. VanEvery, William L. Bull and Alvin Kresch.

Telephone Men Named.
These men were succeeded on the board by Theodore N. Vail, president of the American Telephone & Telegraph Company; Henry S. Howe, John I. Waterbury, Robert W. Moore, Henry P. Davidson, William H. Moore, Robert C. Lovett, representing the Harriman interests; Edward J. Han, Union N. Bethel and Henry N. Thayer.

George J. Gould, chairman of the board and until recently accredited the largest individual stockholder, did not retire. Neither did Robert C. Clowry, the president and general manager, who is also a member of the board.

Great Jubilee the Good Thing.
TAMPA, FLA., Dec. 8.—Great Jubilee was the good thing at the Tampa Bay track today, furnishing one of the best opportunities the talent has had to recoup from false favorites during the last two days. Charlotte Hamilton, a much fancied one in the third, furnished an upset when she was beaten by Serenade.

PRESIDENT STIRS UP ENTHUSIASM

National Rivers and Harbors Congress Gives Mr. Taft Noisy Reception

URGES ISSUANCE OF BONDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS

There Will be Opposition in Congress, He Says, and First Thing to Do is to Get Definite Declaration in Favor of Certain Projects—German Ambassador Speaks.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8.—Speaking in strong endorsement of the policy of waterways improvement, President Taft stirred up much enthusiasm during the opening hours of the sixth convention of the National Rivers and Harbors Congress here today. Hundreds of delegates, representing every section of the United States were in attendance. Men and women delegates gave the President a noisy reception.

Upon being presented to the assembly by Joseph E. Ransdell, president of the Congress, President Taft dwelt upon his interest in the policy of waterway improvement, and offered advice to the delegates upon methods for attaining the ends they seek.

"I congratulate this congress," said Mr. Taft, "on having brought the subject of waterways to such a point that the representatives of congress from one end of the country to the other recognize it as a subject that calls for action. They have not come to a definite conclusion as to the policy that ought to be adopted, but they have come to the conclusion that some policy must be adopted with reference to the development of those instrumentalities which nature has furnished for the transportation of goods and for the controlling of railroad rates."

"You in your declaration say that you are in favor of a policy and not in favor of any particular project. I think that a wise platform to take; and yet when it comes to the practical enforcement and accomplishment of something you have got to get into projects."

"Charged With the Necessity."
Now, I don't think I betray a secret when I say that a gentleman who has much to do with the initiation of projects in congress is fully charged with the necessity for doing something in the next congress to foreshadow, or rather to begin, a policy with respect to these rivers."

After referring to various waterways projects in detail the President continued:

"A year ago President Roosevelt and I were together on a platform before the convention of resources convention in which we both advocated the issuing of bonds in order that a project improving waterways when begun should be completed in a reasonable time. I am still a consistent advocate of that theory. I believe that the government is entitled to as rapid a method of developing an enterprise and putting it through as private corporations and as they always issue bonds, or generally do (some of them are fortunate enough not to have to) in order to expedite the completion of the projects, it would seem wise for the nation to do so where it will accomplish the same result."

Declaration of Policy.
"But I want to suggest a word of caution. You are going to encounter in congress great opposition to the policy of issuing bonds right out of hand. You are much more likely to get from congress a declaration of policy in the shape of a declaration that a certain improvement ought to be carried out and spread upon the minutes of congress in the form of a resolution on declaration or a statute."

What I advise you to do is to get that declaration. Then when the time comes that political exigency shall prevent the appropriation of sufficient funds from the current revenues to put the proper part of the project through the coming year or the coming two years as economy requires, then the question of issuing bonds will arise. I would get the declaration first and not have the bonds first, for the reason that you will encounter the objection by congress that the issuing of bonds and the receipt of the money will develop a desire to be extravagant."

Natural Way the Best.
That may not meet your views, but I have thought it over and I know something about congress. I know where you are going to encounter opposition and I believe the best way is the natural way with those gentlemen. You lead them on to declare in favor of Missouri improvement."

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

BOILERMAKERS IN RICHMOND ON STRIKE

One Hundred Quit Locomotive Works Because of New Pay System.

(By Associated Press.)
RICHMOND, VA., Dec. 8.—Over 100 men employed in the tank and boiler shops of the Richmond branch of the American Locomotive Works walked out today following the issuance of an order changing the system of pay from a daily wage system to a time or bonus system.

There are over 300 men employed in these two departments and the strikers say they will also walk out later.

CARRIE NATION ON WARPATH AT CAPITAL

Smashes Fifty Dollars Worth of Bottled Whiskey and Gets Jailed.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8.—Mrs. Carrie Nation, who came here to keep her eye on congress, went into the buffet of the Union station this afternoon and taking out her hatchet wielded it indiscriminately, smashing about \$50 worth of bottled whiskeys.

She was at once arrested and taken to the house of detention charged with destroying private property. A large crowd of persons in the station was attracted by the commotion in the buffet and excitement ran high.

REPUBLICAN PARTY HAS CHANGED FRONT

That's What Secretary McVeagh Says About Tariff Situation.

BOSTON, MASS., Dec. 8.—That the Republican party has changed front and is now marching towards lower tariffs in which movement the Payne tariff bill is but an incident was the interesting statement made by Secretary of the Treasury MacVeagh at the annual banquet of the Massachusetts Bankers' Association tonight. Three hundred persons attended the banquet.

Among the other speakers were George E. Roberts, president of the Commercial National Bank, Chicago, and Governor Eben S. Draper.

BREAKS RECORD IN TEETH OF "NORTHER"

Barney Oldfield Goes Fifty Miles in 47:18 on Circular Track.

DALLAS, TEXAS, Dec. 8.—With his face wrapped in woolen bandages and wearing heavy fur gloves and fur overcoat, Barney Oldfield drove his 120 horsepower Benz racer in the teeth of a Texas "norther" and broke the 50 miles world's circular track record, which has stood for over five years.

He covered the half century in 47:18 as against the old mark of 48:19.5, made by himself in Fresno, Cal., in 1904. Oldfield got inside the previous record of thirty miles and broke every mark to the end of the run.

NEW W. & M. BRANCH.

Public School Teachers to be Trained at Williamsburg.

(By Associated Press.)
RICHMOND, VA., Dec. 8.—William and Mary College at Williamsburg, Va., the second oldest college in the country, coming next to Harvard, is to have a new observation and practice school for the training of male teachers for the public schools of Virginia, the building to cost \$20,000 to be a thoroughly modern structure, though of colonial architecture and to be ready for occupancy by the opening of the session next fall.

Killing in Roanoke.
(By Associated Press.)
ROANOKE, VA., Dec. 8.—Michael Misalis, a Greek, 19-years-old, today stabbed and killed James Stamoulis, proprietor of a Roanoke Greek restaurant. The men quarreled in a Greek barber shop and when the restaurant man attempted to eject Misalis the latter stabbed him in the breast. Misalis escaped.

FOR RENT SIGN ON NICARAGUAN HOUSE

Gossip at Washington Says Zelaya Overlooked Sending of Legation's Checks.

REPORT OF INSURGENT DEFEAT UNFOUNDED

Advices from Central America Are to Effect That Decisive Battle Probably Will be Fought at Pama Today—Attempts to Stir Up Anti-American Sentiment.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8.—The Nicaraguan legation here is no more. Big vans have carried off the furniture and other appurtenances from the house in O street, where President Zelaya's representatives once were domiciled. A "For Rent" sign ornaments the front lawn and drawn curtains and an air of desolation greets the caller, while no servant hastens to answer a ring at the bell. In addition, it is the gossip of Central American circles that the Zelaya government has not sent the monthly checks to its legation, an oversight that is said to be sorely felt by the legation force.

Rodriguez Still There.
Senor Rodriguez, the special emissary of Zelaya through whom Secretary Knox's sharp note was conveyed to the Nicaraguan government is still in Washington.

It is said by a former attache of the legation that the furniture had been stored until the present situation is cleared and that it was the property of the government. It was indignantly denied that the legation had been driven from its quarters because of the failure of the Nicaraguan government to meet the monthly rent bills.

Word was received here tonight that in Central American circles the reports of a Zelayan victory over the insurgent army near Rama was without the slightest foundation in fact. It was declared that there has been no fighting in the last few days.

Lull Before the Storm.

"It is the lull before the storm," said a Central American diplomat.

"In a few days we will hear of a battle and it will be a decisive one, provided the Estrada forces are victorious. If they are not they will fall back to fight again."

Battle Expected Today.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8.—Senor Castillo, the representative of the revolutionists here, received a cablegram under today's date from Bluefield and signed Estrada, stating that all indications were that a decisive battle between Zelaya's forces and the revolutionists would be fought tomorrow at Rama.

Zelaya Desperate.

President Zelaya recognizing the growing sentiment in Nicaragua favorable to the revolutionists and to the part of the United States is planning in the contest, has recently been making every possible effort to incite the people to anti-American demonstration. This information was received at the state department today from official sources together with the statements that Zelaya's efforts in that direction had been utterly futile and that nothing but fear of him prevents a pro-American demonstration.

Exile Arrives.

(By Associated Press.)
NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—Dr. M. E. Velasquez, a Nicaraguan exile who arrived here today from Panama has a string of grievances against President Zelaya extending over a period of nine years and including six imprisonments.

He reports that no mail from Nicaragua can reach the colony of exiles at Panama unopened by Zelaya's spies and censors.

Ten thousand refugees in Costa Rica are organizing to support Estrada he says, and the downfall of Zelaya's spies and censors.

FOOTBALL BARRED.

Greater New York's Board of Education Takes Action.
(By Associated Press.)
NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—After January 1, 1910, football is barred from the public schools of Greater New York. This was decided by resolution at a meeting of the board of education today over the heated protest of James E. Sullivan, a member of the board and former president and now secretary of the amateur athletic union.

COLD KEEPS ALL QUIET ABOUT THE TIN MILLS

Two Hundred Militiamen Shiveringly Watch Comrades Depart for Their Homes.

(By Associated Press.)
BRIDGEPORT, OHIO, Dec. 8.—Two hundred militiamen shivered in the cold tonight watching the departure of their regimental comrades for their Ohio homes. The 200 soldiers are all that remain of the three regiments of troops called out for strike guard duty at the Aetna-Standard plant of the American Sheet & Tin Plate Company here Saturday.

Absolutely quiet reigned about the tin mills. Even the strikers and their sympathizers failed to show up this evening around the plant on account of the extremely cold weather.

AGRICULTURAL APPROPRIATION.

Bill Will be Taken Up in Congress Next Monday.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8.—In the house committee on agriculture today it was decided to take up the agricultural appropriation bill next Monday. The estimates on which hearings will be given approximate \$12,000,000, and the bill is expected to be in shape to report to the house the first week after the Christmas holidays. The Scott bill to prohibit dealings in futures in cotton, grain and other farm products will be pressed after the agricultural appropriation bill is gotten out of the way.

LIAR MILDST EPITHET

Mrs. Brokaw Says Husband Abused Her Cruelly.

MARRIED TWO YEARS AGO

Wife of Millionaire Yachtsman is Suing for Divorce and Sixty Thousand Dollars a Year Alimony—Tells of Various Humiliating Incidents.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—"Liar," with qualifications of varying intensity, was one of the mildest epithets W. Gould Brokaw, the millionaire yachtsman, was accustomed to apply to his wife according to her testimony in court today.

Mrs. Brokaw, who was Mary Blair, is suing her husband at Minors L. L. for separation and alimony of \$60,000 a year on grounds of alleged cruel and abusive treatment and failure to provide for her support. The Brokaws were married in 1907.

"We shall show," said her counsel in addressing the court today, "that abuse of the bride began two hours after the marriage ceremony. Brokaw was madly jealous for no reason. He often forced his wife to eat alone and keep to her room for the entire day. During the honeymoon they ate only four meals together. He broke into her room at all hours and on one occasion, when the door was slammed in his face, screamed red ink on his forehead and ran around the hallway in his pajamas, crying and complaining to the bell boys. He was habitually intoxicated and frequently used abusive language."

Jealous of Relatives.

Mrs. Brokaw testified that her husband was jealous of her brothers, that he accused her of flirting with a nephew, his nephew and his doctor.

"What were some of the names that Mr. Brokaw called you, when you denied his charges?" asked counsel.

The witness wrote her reply on a sheet of paper which was not read.

On New Year's eve, 1907, occurred an incident, Mrs. Brokaw testified, that caused her much humiliation. It had been her husband's custom, she said, to serve her at dinner glasses, while he and his guests drank champagne. By mistake the butler gave her real wine. When she raised the glass her husband became furious, she said, and ordered her before her guests to go to her room. The witness wept as she related this.

Attempted Suicide.

Before court adjourned Mrs. Brokaw's attorney announced that he would show how Mrs. Brokaw, in February, 1908, attempted suicide in her husband's shooting lodge at Fairview, N. C., after a quarrel, because of Mr. Brokaw's treatment of her.

W. Gould Brokaw was divorced from his first wife, who was Miss Corinne Goulet in 1899. Before marrying again, it is said, he paid \$12,000 to Katherine Poole to settle a breach of promise suit.

NEW YORK GROSSLY SLANDERED, HE SAYS

Judge Gaynor Declares the Metropolis is Most Decent Large City in World.

SCATHINGLY DENOUNCES IMPUDENT FORMER BOSSES

Long Terms of Office of Man Who Made Themselves Millionaires Out of the Municipality a Standing Disgrace—Southern Society's Annual Dinner—Secretary of War Speaks.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—Secretary of War Dickinson and William J. Gaynor, mayor-elect of Greater New York, were the principal speakers tonight at the annual dinner of the Southern Society of New York at the Waldorf-Astoria. The secretary of war spoke of the North, the South and the nation, but Judge Gaynor confined himself almost solely to municipal issues. Six hundred southerners were present.

Judge Gaynor, in this, his first public address since his election, said in part:

Impudent Former Bosses.

"The long terms of office of the bosses who made themselves millionaires out of the government of this city, some of whom live abroad and impudently visit us occasionally now that the statute of limitations has outlawed their villainies, is a standing disgrace to the moral tone of the community."

Hastening to the defense of the city's name, Judge Gaynor continued:

"This city has been most grossly slandered for several years in respect to its morality, financial, credit or otherwise. Let us put a stop to that. Mere scolds and sensationalists are not to be suffered to give this city a bad or even vile name throughout the world. I am prepared to say from travel and other means of information that New York is the most orderly, decent and moral large city in the world."

TOLD ABOUT SUGAR FRAUDS TEN YEARS AGO

Former Weigher Says His Reports to Superiors Went Unnoticed.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—Underweighing sugar and cheating the government out of the duty is not a new art, according to testimony introduced today as the government continued its prosecution of six former employees of the American Sugar Refining Company.

James Conlon, a former customs weigher, testified that although he had apprised his superiors of the existence of fraud more than ten years ago, nothing was done to punish the guilty persons until after the death of H. O. Hayemeyer.

Thomas Kehoe, one of the defendants, was implicated by Conlon's testimony when the latter swore that on two occasions he had seen Kehoe manipulating the scales by a special appliance.

He seized the instrument, so he testified, but in the first instance returned it after Kehoe had pleaded with him. Later, he testified, he reported the matter but it brought no results.

The sugar fraud cases were the subject of a caustic resolution adopted today by the New York board of trade and transportation, urging that "the most searching and impartial proceedings should be prosecuted to the utmost limit" against all those found to be involved in the alleged conspiracy to defraud the government.

Collector Loeb and other officials, who assisted him in bringing to light the alleged fraudulent practices were highly commended by the board.

Princeton Wins at Basketball.

(By Associated Press.)
PRINCETON, N. J., Dec. 8.—Princeton defeated the Crescent Athletic Club of Brooklyn, at basketball tonight, 34 to 25.